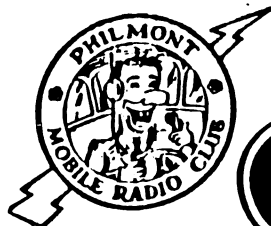
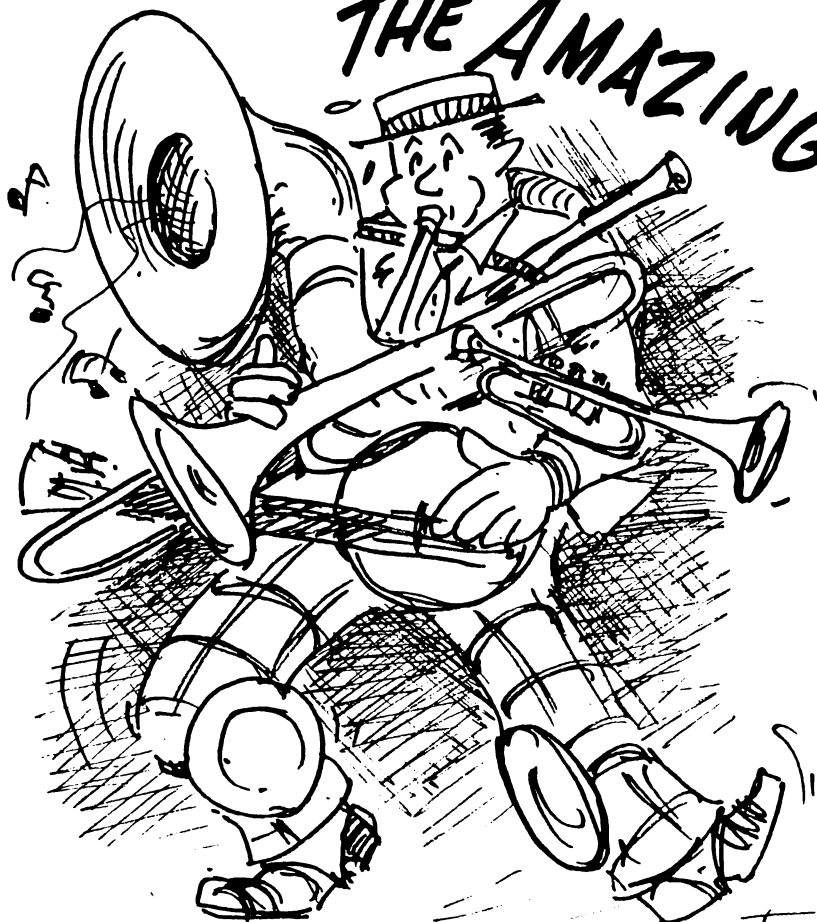
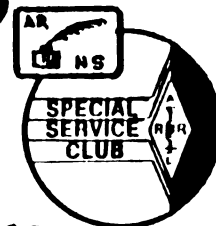


PHILMONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB
W3RQZ • W3TKQ • W3QV



BLURB
October 1989

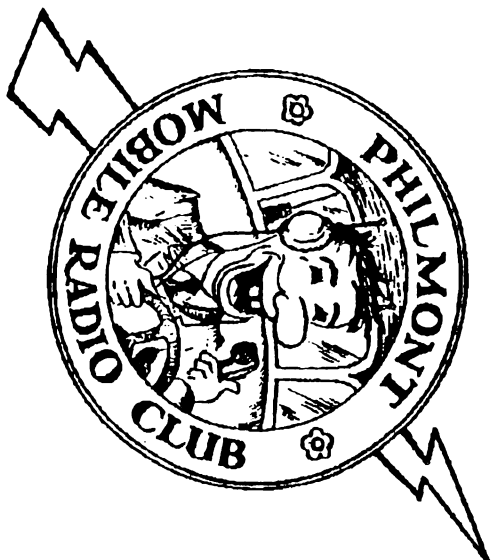


PHILMONT BANQUET
Symphony ORCHESTRA

THE BLURB

A Publication of

THE PHILMONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.
2113 EDGEHILL DRIVE, FURLONG, PA 18925



FIRST CLASS MAIL

is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC. whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. BLURB subscriptions are available to non-members for \$6.50 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 8 PM on the first non-holiday Monday of every month at The Franklin Institute, 21st Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia. Use the rear entrance. ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!
Amateur Radio License Examinations - every meeting night at 6:30 PM-SHARP!

CLUB INFORMATION

- 24 Hour Information Number at W3TKQ -

(215) 448-1139

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

STATIONS

W3QV - 147.03 MHz. Repeater - 8200 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB

W3RQZ - 1176 Old York Road, Abington, PA - Trustee W3VVS

W3TKQ - The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3PWG

W3TKQ Operators: WA3AAL, Fred; N3ABS, John; K3TEF, Frank; KA3PJC, Jack; W3PWG, Rollie

ALL LICENSED AMATEURS ARE WELCOME TO OPERATE W3TKQ.**OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT: W3UY, Larry Clifford, 615 Apache Lane, Norristown, PA 19401

VICE PRESIDENT: WA3AUN, Mark Ackerman, 821 Moredon Road, Meadowbrook, PA 19046

SECRETARY: N2RM, Rob Moore, 9U Rose Rita Terrace, Hammonton, NJ 08037

TREASURER: KB3IV, Ed Masarsky, 15 Poe Avenue, Wyncote, PA 19095

DIRECTORS

W3BBB (90); K3GBA (A); K3GNM (89); W3IIM (A); W3IIN (A); K3KUD (89); W3LKI (90)

COMMITTEES

Archives: W3IIN
Awards: K3KUD
Banquet: N3EBE
BLURB: W3IIM
Budget / Audit: W3IIN
Directory: WB3KOJ

DX: WA3AUN
Membership: W3IIN
MO-COM 5: N3DHI
Net Control: WB3CMM
Program: WA3AUN
Publicity: N3EAY

Refreshments: N3FVI
Repeater: W3BBB
Special Events: N3FVI
TVI: WA3AUN
VE Program: ND3Q
W3TKQ: W3PWG
Welcome: W3VVS

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(215) 794-7623

Artist: Sam Kuncovich

Assistant Editor/Typist: W3IIN

N3DHI, K3GBA, WB3KOJ

DEADLINE: To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy **MUST** be in the hands of the Editor at the Bored of Directors' Meeting.

NET SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	09:30	147.030	MHz FM	"SUNDAY MORNING 2 METER NET"
	10:00	28.400	MHz SSB	"10-ON-10 NET"
	10:20	3.993	MHz SSB	75 METER NET
TUESDAY	20:00	147.030	MHz FM	CW PRACTICE NET
WEDNESDAY	20:30	147.030	MHz FM	SWAP NET

**APPLE BYTES****OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

01-EDWARD MASARSKY - KB3IV

04-JOSEPH S. ELMALAH - K3HIJ

-CLAIRE SPRATT (XYL N3ALW)

09-GEORGE DeSIMONE - K3YOD

-JERRI IVES (XYL W3SMA)

-CAROLYN MUROFF (XYL W3SAI)

11-HOWARD J. TROUT - W3IGW

13-FRANCIS G. CLARK - KB3QE

14-WILLIAM MESCANTI, Jr. - WB3KUR

19-ALBERT C. PORT, Sr. - W3HYU

21-WILLIAM H. CONKLE - W3IJN

26-ROBERT HOUCK - K2JOL

28-CHARLES L. STOUTH - W3ZPP

31-RICHARD M. KLEIN - W3WXC

HELP PHIL-MONT

ARE YOU PLANNING TO JOIN ARRL OR RENEW YOUR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP? HELP PHIL-MONT BY JOINING OR RENEWING THROUGH THE CLUB...CONTACT KB3IV FOR THE DETAILS.

MISSING?

WAS YOUR BIRTHDAY (OR YOUR XYL/YL's) MISSING FROM THIS COLUMN? IF IT WAS, DON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN, JUST SEND ME THE INFORMATION AND IT WILL APPEAR AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.

....DE WB3KOJ

AMATEUR LICENSE CLASSES STARTING**Marple Newtown Club****Warminster, Too!**

Classes began on September 12th. Call W3PUP, Jack 544-3537 or W3TXN, Tim 353-1744 for more information.

.....

Congratulations!

The Warminster ARC is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

Classes for Novice, General/Technician and Advanced licenses began on September 12th, and will continue, weekly on Tuesday evenings, until November 28.

Contact Jim Yeager, K3EBZ for more info. 672-5487

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER DIRECTORS' MEETING

The September Mid-Month was held at the home of WA3AUN on September 13, 1989. In attendance were N2RM, WA3AUN, W3UY, KB3IV, K3KUD, W3BBB, N3DHI, K3GBA and N3GLH. The meeting was called to order by W3UY.

After lengthy discussion, KB3IV made a motion to table discussions on the selling of MO-COM-5 until a program is given on it at a General Meeting, and a reaction of the club members is subsequently evaluated. In the meantime, interested potential purchasers can be made aware that it may be for sale. K3GBA seconded the motion and the Board approved it.

Special Events: W3UY has sold both houses.

Banquet: W3BBB said it's under control.

Membership: KB3IV presented the application of Paul Policarpo, N3GMH, who was voted in as a member by the board.

Awards-K3KUD: So far an underwhelming degree of ballots (10) have been received for "Phil-Monter of the Year." Bob made a motion that "Beginning in 1990 all the presently existing awards be retired, but only be awarded by, and at the discretion of, the Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by W3BBB, and was approved by the Board. This will effectively eliminate the Awards Committee as such, and hopefully the Board will recognize deserving members who would not receive recognition because of the apathy of members in nominating them.

Technical: N3DHI said he gave W3BBB new PL tones that should help reduce/eliminate background noise on the repeater.

W3TKQ: Deficiencies found by a previous visit to TKQ will be rectified as follows:

1. N3GLH will try to fix the tape recorder.

2. A request will be made of the membership that a 2 meter FM rig be donated for packet.

3. The Spencers will try to get WA3KLR to fix the TR7.

4. W3RM will donate an oscilloscope for RTTY.

Nominating Committee: Because of several cancellations, the committee has been revised to be as follows: N3DHI-Chairman, KA3BET (to be asked), N3EAY, K3GNM, W3RM.

TVI-W3BBB: N3GLH was given the form to investigate a TVI complaint, given to Jim, from the FCC, regarding a ham in South Philadelphia. WA3AUN agreed to be on the TVI committee and to head-it-up. KB3IV suggested that information about the formation of the committee be published in the BLURB.

WA3AUN said the next General Meeting Program on October 2, 1989 will be given by Robert Johns, a professional Antenna Engineer, and will be on Antenna Measurements and Innovative HF Antennas.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Robert R. Moore, N2RM, Secretary

NEW-MEMBER APPLICATIONS

CALL: KA3EBC
NAME: Charles Weigand
HANDLE: Charlie
CLASS: Technician
ADDRESS: 100 W. Welles St.
Philadelphia, PA 19120
HOME PHONE: (215) 324 0167
BUSINESS: (215) 212 3300
OCCUPATION: Auto Mechanic

CALL: N3IIM
NAME: Adrian Ewbank
HANDLE: Adrian
CLASS: Technician
ADDRESS: 1901 JFK Blvd., Apt 414
Philadelphia, PA 19103
HOME PHONE: (215) 567 0174
OCCUPATION: Student

The PREZ SEZ

Larry Clifford, W3UY

One frequently associates long hot days with August. Youngsters, and probably many parents, realize that the opening of school is not too many days away.

At Phil-Mont, August has become known as "good times", because Arnie and Sue host a wonderful Saturday afternoon at poolside.

This year was no exception. Many con-

versations, and reminiscings of gone-by days, could be heard. New members and their families got acquainted with old members and their families. Everyone enjoyed the good tasting specialties on the banquet table. All because Arnold and Sue welcomed Phil-Mont to their home.

Again, thanks Arnie and Sue; we all appreciate your thoughtfulness.

IT SEEMS TO ME.....

Lloyd Sherman, W3CDY

Fifth of a series of guest editorials by our former editors.

To receive the invitation to write a guest editorial for the October BLURB was quite a surprise. At first there was a degree of apprehension, then some comprehension, followed by the realization that you threw me a challenge. In short, you said, hey, you did it before, now will you do it again? Reading the recent issues of the Blurb has shown me the stability Phil-mont has maintained on one hand, and the progress you have made by change on the other. So here goes (editor) #5.

There are so many activities that are still part of Phil-mont, and that I had the opportunity to be a part of, even in a minute way. The Scout Paddlerama was paced by PMRC since about '65 or '66. Sorta' sad that you lost support to do so in '89. Fine business on the cycle race. It must have been well planned and supported. Then there is the Annual Banquet for great fellowship and Awards. Oh yes, Awards; what ever happened to the "Lady Phil-mont" Award? And then there is the film "Every Single Minute", a first by Phil-Mont. 'Hope I can manage a video copy. Making a Video copy of Every Single Minute sure ties the past with the progressive present. To have a home at the Franklin Institute has been a great step for Phil-mont and FI; a marriage with both parties finding themselves equal benefactors. Although the VAN is a story in itself, it is another item that makes Amateur Radio more manageable in time of

need or upon request.

It would be fun to enumerate more of your activities, however, the point is, that most of your programs have survived since I moved on, losing close contact with Phil-mont. Phil-mont has remained a cherished memory because of the great fellowship that survives. It takes membership participation to make them a part of Phil-Mont. It means putting something in before you can take anything out. The "BLURB" shows contributions, and committee reports confirm the contributions made by members. You see it is in the membership that you built up a tremendous reserve of energy, ideas and support of all kinds.

Phil-Monters, keep the fellowship strong, talk it up, feed the editor with materials, get on the air and make your wants and wishes known, just like you have in the past, and you will get the job done just like you have before.

To have been a Phil-monter has been a great privilege; to serve, a great honor, and in summary, cherished memories. Congratulations Woody, W3PST, for an outstanding job. To you Jack, W3IIM, best wishes. And to all Phil-monters: a heartfelt 73.

PO Box 98
Ocean View, DE
19970

*** UPDATE ***

- OCT 2 General Meeting program:
Antenna Measurements & Innovative HF Antennas
presented by Robert Johns
- Oct 18 Directors' Meeting at
W3IIM & N's
--- * ---
- NOV 6 General Meeting
*** MO-COM ***
Go or No-go? - be there!
- Nov 11 **BANQUET**
Master of Ceremonies:
Russ Miller, K3NYN
- Nov 15 Directors' Meeting at
W3AA & WA3YJR's
--- * ---
- DEC 4 General Meeting
&
ELECTIONS

HAMFESTS

- OCT 8 WARRINGTON, PA
Pack Rats
Bucks County Drive In
- OCT 22 BENSLEM, PA
Penn Wireless Tradefest '89
Rt 152, 1 mi S of Rt 132
146.97 146.52
(NOTE REVISED DATE)
- OCT 28 SELLERSVILLE, PA
RF Hill Hamfest
--- * ---

**And don't forget PHIL-MONT's
very own "Hamfest" every
Wednesday evening at 8:30 PM
on our 147.03 repeater!**

CLUB INFORMATION

24 Hour Information Number at W3TKQ
(215) 448-1139

**ONE BANQUET TICKET WILL BE
RAFFLED-OFF AT THE NEXT
GENERAL MEETING.**

Value: \$26.50

Arnie won the September ticket!

**V.E. TEST LOCATIONS**

from EPA FEEDLINE & others

BELMAWR, NJ
Monthly, 3rd Thursday
Bill Helmatag
(609) 546-7710

CENTER CITY
Oct 2, Nov 6, Dec 4
Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q
(215) 482-0386
(215) 879-0505

PERKASIE
Monthly, 3rd Monday
Stu Silverstein, K3UEI
(215) 584-0775

BRYN MAWR
Nov 11, Feb 17
Bob Haase, W3SA
(215) 293-1919

LEVITTOWN
Dave Heller, K3TX
(215) 946-1040

HATBORO
Sep 27, Nov 29
Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ
(215) 343-3494

WHAT TO STUDY

ARRL

All students should be familiar with regulations covered in The FCC Rule Book. Exam question pools are prepared by a coalition of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators, presently on a three year cycle. There could be changes in exam content sometime in 1990 to reflect changes brought about by the rewrite of the Amateur Radio Rules, so this chart is subject to change without notice.

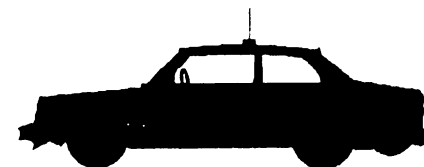
LICENSE CLASS	FOR EXAMS GIVEN	ARRL PUBLICATION
Novice (Element 2)	Up through October 30, 1989 On November 1, 1989 and later	Tune In the World with Ham Radio Current 7th Edition Tune In the World with Ham Radio New 8th Edition available in late summer, 1989
Technician (Element 3A)	Up through October 30, 1989 On November 1, 1989 and later	The ARRL Technician/General Class License Manual Current 3rd Edition The ARRL Technician Class License Manual New 1st Edition available in late summer, 1989
General (Element 3B)	Up through October 30, 1990	The ARRL Technician/General Class License Manual Current 3rd Edition General Class material only or The ARRL General Class License Manual New 1st Edition available in late summer, 1989
Advanced (Element 4A)	Up through October 30, 1990 On November 1, 1990 and later	The ARRL Advanced Class License Manual Current 2nd Edition The ARRL Advanced Class License Manual New Edition available in late summer, 1990
Extra (Element 4B)	Up through October 30, 1991 On November 1, 1991 and later	The ARRL Extra Class License Manual Current (3rd or 4th) Edition* The ARRL Extra Class License Manual New Edition available in late summer, 1991

*The 3rd and 4th Editions are essentially identical except for cover price.

TVI Committee Forming

The FCC has asked that we form a committee which WA3AUN has volunteered to chair. Please contact Mark if you'd like to help.

**Members are reminded to take
reasonable security measures**



**when parking their cars at the
'Institute on meeting nights.**

**AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS
HELD MONTHLY**

At
THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE
For Information Call ND3Q at
(215) 482-0386 or 879-0505

IMPROVE YOUR CODE PROFICIENCY THE EASY WAY!

ARRL

Here are the four sets of code-practice cassettes that you've been waiting for. We applied the technology used in improving the *Tune in the World with Ham Radio* tapes (See QST for August 1987, page 137) when we produced these all new cassettes to be used by those who already know Morse code and want to improve their ability to copy. Each set provides almost 3 hours of practice and consists of two 90-minute (C-90) cassettes. Each tape features sample QSOs and code groups. There are also complete sentences in which you will find it difficult to anticipate the words. Here's a sample, "Yesterday, amateur yardsticks played jazz with ka-zoos."

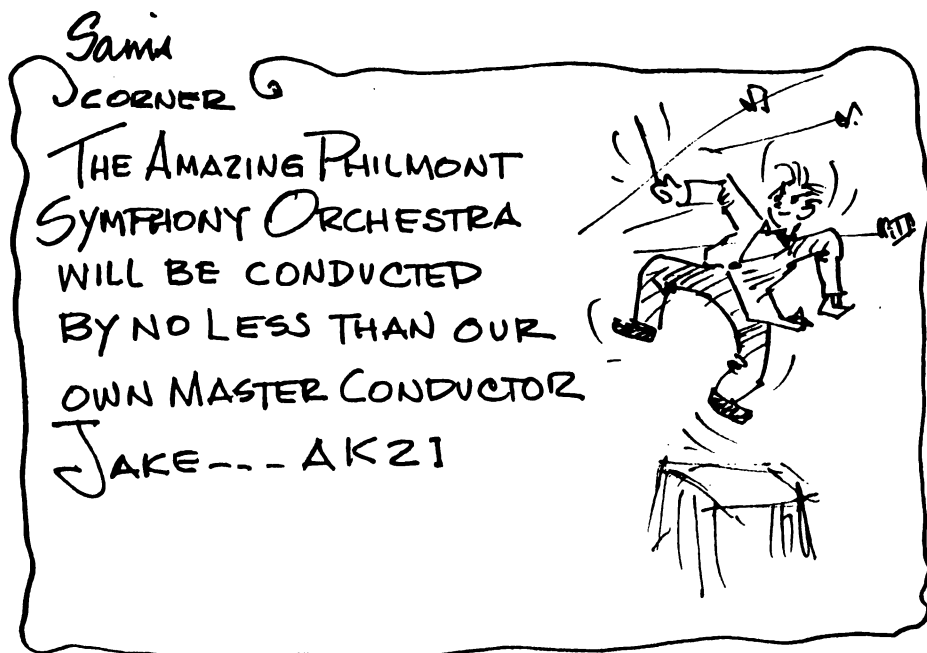
On sets 1, 2, and 3, at speeds below 18 WPM, the individual Morse code characters themselves are recorded at the rate of 18 words per minute, but the spacing between characters is made longer to slow the overall code speed. At speeds of 18 words per minute and faster, the characters are recorded using the standard code time for that speed. On each tape, the code speed gradually increases. On set 4, which gives practice at 13, 13-1/2 and 14 WPM for the General Class code exam, standard timing and spacing is used.

Set 1: 5 to 10 WPM in these steps: 5, 5.8, 6.7, 7.5, 8, 8.7, 9.3, and 10 WPM.

Set 2: 10 to 15 WPM in steps: 10, 10.8, 11.7, 12.5, 13.3, 14.2 and 15 WPM.

Set 3: 15 to 22 WPM in one-word-per-minute steps.

Set 4: 13 to 14 WPM in steps 13, 13.5 and 14 WPM.



MEET THE MEMBER

George King, W3PXY

INTRODUCING: William Conkle, W3IJN

A new member, Bill just joined PMRC, and the following is to introduce him to us all. The facts represented here are, by no means, accurate, and have been received by hearsay, and third party blarney. Bill will give you the straight stuff when he reads this.

Bill has been a radio operator on the boats (ships) for Sun Oil and Texaco for about 40 years, and has tales to tell that are good for hours of chatter. Naturally, the first language is CW and the second language is English. Bill has been in every port, and visited every country on this globe, and has been around the world too many times to count.

On the boats, the operator has to fix, and keep all communications running. You are supposed to climb the 60 foot mast to fix the antennas when the ship is rolling around underneath - some fun. The food is good but depends on the cook. Usually about 14 shipmates on board and nowadays automation has cut this down considerably. The radio operator is becoming obsolete with all the new comm and satellite nav gear. No need for the radio op anymore with all the redundant comm gear in the wheel house. The officers can now do all comm themselves, yet some vessels still need ops, so Bill still gets calls to go back to sea, but nuf is nuf says he.

You can't spend your money at sea, so Bill has become an expert in the stock market - when in port, running to the local broker to do some trading. He is financial adviser to Doctor Carl and PXY.

During the war in the Caribbean, in the slot between the islands, the German U boats lay in wait, and more than once punched a torpedo in the bottom. Bill is an expert swimmer.

From the Indian ocean Bill has chatted many times with Jay Gaul on CW in Ardmore, with Jay going down the street mobile with a side swiper bolted to the seat at 30 words per minute - Jay still does. Now that's CW for you. Why talk voice when you can get thru better with CW?

How I came to know Bill is through SGR in Narberth - lives not far away. Bill is now retired and a heart of gold when you hear him helping Carl get around to rehab - hospital - doctors at a drop of a hat, any time and any place. We all owe Bill many good thanks for his kindnesses to Carl in time of need. Bill and Carl were due to go to Arnie's for the splash, but some food, the night before, put them both under the weather.

On the boat you jog around about 4 times to get your mile in. Left over boat gear - you name it, Bill has it at home.

We are hoping Bill will get on the repeater so we can all share his tremendous experiences. Now, you go to work on him, and let's get Bill to give us a program talk on what radio ops do on board ship for 40 years.

'Reminds me of my early attempt to scratch up some cash using my coal passer license on the ore boats on the Great Lakes. Do you know what a coal passer is? He shovels coal - now you know where PXY got the blarney practice.

This garbled up story could go on forever about Bill and I am sure it is full of errors which Bill will get us straight when he reads it. So hopefully Bill will share his wealth of lifetime experiences at the earliest opportunity.

We encourage members to contribute similar articles about new members whom you have sponsored into the club. Articles about ol' timers would also be of interest to many of the newer members. There are some very interesting backgrounds out there; let's hear about them!

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The meeting was called to order by W3UY at 8:13 PM. N2RM read the minutes of the August General Meeting which were approved with minor changes.

KB3IV read the Treasurer's report which showed monthly expenditures exceeding receipts. He also, through W3BBB, received a check and letter thanking Phil-Mont for the use of MO-COM for their Hamfest.

Special Events-N3FVI: No club events on tap. There is a bike race to Ocean City which will offer overnight accommodations in Ocean City as part of the participation. See N3FVI for details.

W3UY thanked Arnie, KC2HX, for holding the August Bath at his home.

Penn Wireless is sponsoring a day to W1AW on November 4, 1989, leaving at 7 AM. Call Ed Tryon at 215-750-0124 home, or 215-638-9300 work, or Art Smith at 215-322-4470 by October 2, 1989.

Other events of interest include the "Pack Rats" Hamfest on October 8, 1989 with the VHF conference on October 7, 1989.

Swap Net-N3GWG: The net is becoming more active and it is hoped it will become more active in the fall.

Visitors were introduced by N3GLH

which were KD3LA, KA3EBC and N3HIM.

Awards-K3KUD: Bob is looking for votes. He has 8 ballots received so far.

Technical Committee-W3BBB: Jim indicated that everything was working.

Nominating Committee-W3UY: Larry appointed the committee which includes K3KUD, N3EAY, W3VVS, K3GNM and N3DHI.

W3BBB has received a request from the FCC to look into a TVI complaint in South Philadelphia. N3FVI volunteered to head up a team to look into it.

N3GWG reported that 90% of hotel rooms for 1990's Dayton Hamvention were already spoken for. He said a new hotel, the Fairmont is taking reservations now.

W3AUN said DX conditions are improving again with 10 meters being wide open. W2FUW said 10 DX stations were worked over the weekend from his mobile station in the Worked All Europe Contest on 20 meters.

Volunteer Exam-ND3Q: said 17 elements were given with 14 passed.

W3AUN introduced N3FVI who gave a talk on equipment he uses.

Respectfully Submitted, Robert Moore, N2RM, Secretary.

TIME FOR A TRANSFUSION

Larry Clifford, W3UY

At the September General Meeting, we announced a nominating Committee whose assignment is to put together a slate of candidates for next year's officers and directors. Ideally the slate will consist of AT LEAST two persons for each slot.

We formed this committee a month early in an attempt to ease its job. But, it is not up solely to the committee to pick the candidates. They would be very happy to hear from anyone who would be willing to be an officer or director, and to be part of guiding the destiny

of Phil-Mont for the next year.

In all organizations, it seems that the same people are so often the "Club Doers". But, new members come in yearly. This is new blood, and new blood is new vitality. Those of you who would like to be the new blood in the Club's administration please contact someone on the nominating committee. We need your views and ideas.

The nominating committee: N3DHI (Chairman), KA3BET, N3EAY, K3GMN and W3RM. Anyone of them awaits your call.



"A DAY AT W1AW"

MAXIM MEMORIAL STATION AND ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1989

- See the newly renovated W1AW
- Tour the home and offices of the governing body of ham radio
- Bring your ticket to operate W1AW (what a pile up!)
- Pack a lunch for the scenic ride through New England
- Starr charter from Bensalem, PA leaving 7 a.m.
- Dinner at local Newington restaurant! (not included)
- (a menu is provided with the reservation details)
- Meet ARRL officials and ask questions directly
- Once in a lifetime trip - DON'T MISS IT!
- LIMITED SEATING - all reservations must be received before October 2, 1989

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT:

ED TRYON, KA3CVP at (215) 750-0124 or
ART SMITH, KA3NTZ at (215) 322-4470.

(Please detach and send with check or money order to:
Penn Wireless Association, Box L-734, Langhorne, PA 19047)

NAME(s): _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

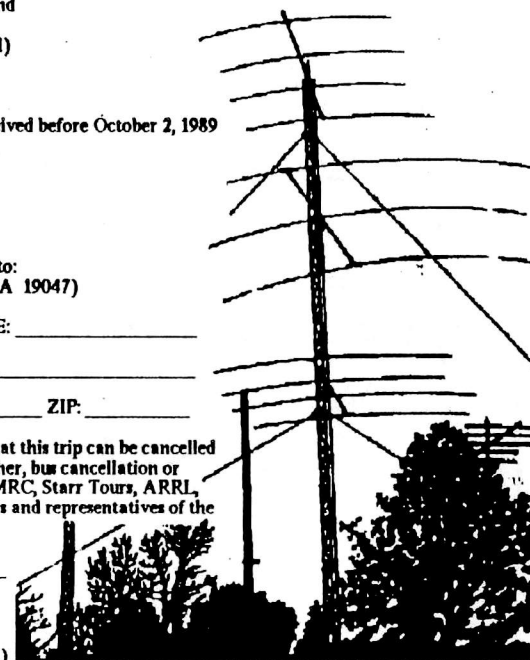
TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

I would like _____ tickets at \$25.00 each. I realize that this trip can be cancelled at any time due to under booking, over booking, weather, bus cancellation or any unforeseen occurrence. I hold harmless PWA, PMRC, Starr Tours, ARRL, any restaurant or vendor on the trip, and the members and representatives of the above organizations.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

(Make check payable to: PENN WIRELESS ASSOC.)



CODE MATTERS

Loraine McCarthy, N6CIO

Recently, the ARRL initiated a change in the character speed on their examination tapes. These test tapes have been circulated to their examiners, and are in use at this time.

The character speed for the Novice and Technician exams is 18 wpm and for the extra exam is 21 wpm. The WSYI VEC plans to retain the character speed of 15 wpm on the Novice and General exams, and 20 wpm on the Extra exam.

At recent forums I gave in Dayton and Dallas, questions were asked by students and instructors alike about how best to prepare for the exams, or to assist students in preparing for exams with the differences in character speeds.

How should I prepare?

I have always advised students to set a goal date for their preparation, and part of that goal preparation was to identify the examiners with whom they would be testing, and the characteristics of their exams. This becomes even more important at this time. Use materials that simulate, as closely as possible, the character speed of the test you will be taking.

I have been practicing with a character speed of 14 to 15, and now I find the only examiners in my area use the faster character speed (or just the opposite). Now what?

If you're ready to test, go ahead and give it a try! If you have time, or you need re-test, obtain some material which uses the "correct character speed", and become familiar with the slightly different sound. There is a different rhythm. It won't take you long.

What is best for practice; tapes, computer disks or on-the-air?

Practice with what works best for you! Tapes and disks can assist you in preparing for the exam more specifically and rapidly. With disks you can vary your character speed.

On-the-air practice is great if you have the time and equipment, and the ability to CHECK YOUR WORK. If you want to be an on-the-air code operator, it's time to get

started! No two operators sound exactly alike.

Lets put it all together!

Remember the basic rules of good practicing at all times:

1. Set a goal for yourself. Have an approximate test date in mind, which you can modify if necessary.
2. Always check your work after every five minutes of practice. What types of mistakes are you making? Identify them.
3. Move forward in your practice one wpm at a time. If you are at 10 wpm, don't suddenly go to 13 to hurry-up the process. It usually doesn't work!
4. Do all types of practice: both random and text are important. Random is a good drill for speed building, but tests are text. You need to practice writing text. Copy letter by letter just you would random. This is necessary practice to overcome anticipation.
5. Always write your code practice. Listening and hearing individual recognition of letters is not the same.
6. Try to write at least five minutes at a time. This helps build endurance. Never stop the recorder to start again if you miss a letter, as this keeps you from developing the skill of continued writing if you miss one.
7. When you think you're ready, try the test! There is no substitute for the real experience. If you do not achieve a passing score the first time, evaluate your performance, and what needs improvement, and try again at the next available opportunity!

If you have any questions about your practice or need examiners in your area, please give me call or write a note. 714-979-CODE (2633).

If you are looking for computer disk for IBM or compatible, the very excellent MORSE TUTOR is available. If you would like to order Morse Tutor, you may write to me.

tnx World Radio & The BRATS

Sunspots Herald Unusual Times Ahead

Communications around the world will be experiencing disruption, distortion, and just plain strange effects as sunspot cycle number 22 approaches its peak. The unusual phenomena, which will be occurring more frequently during the next few months, are the result of increased activity on the surface of the sun.

Sunspots occur in cycles averaging about 11 years in length, with a rise and then fall in the number of sunspots observed. Other kinds of solar activity, including solar flares and prominences, vary with the same period. The result is higher-than-normal levels of electrical activity in the ionosphere as the sunspot cycle moves toward its maximum.

Cycle 22, expected to peak sometime in early 1990, is shaping up to be one of the strongest on record. Forecasts about where a cycle will peak are based largely on the rate at which the rise to peak is occurring. In other words, the faster the rise in sunspot number, the higher the maximum is likely to be. The rapid and early rise in the number of sunspots and other solar phenomena associated with the present cycle has experts guessing that Cycle 22 may match or even surpass the most active sunspot cycle on record.

Sunspots are dark, relatively cool areas appearing in groups on the sun's surface. Intense magnetic fields, as much as several thousand times stronger than the average solar magnetic field, are associated with a sunspot region. It is thought that sunspots occur when strong magnetic fields interior to the sun periodically make their presence felt on the surface, perhaps as an effect of the unusual rotational movement of the sun.

The resulting dramatic increase in solar radiation can have a variety of consequences on Earth. The solar activity associated with sunspots, solar flares and other phenomena increases the ionization of the ionosphere. This can have some unusual effects on radio transmissions. Particles ejected from erupting solar flares can travel to Earth and cause power blackouts, disruptions in radio communication, and surges in power lines. A sunspot cycle with an exceptionally high

maximum could result in television interference or reception of multiple stations on the same channel. Due to the increasing density and miniaturization in integrated circuits, avionics systems are becoming more susceptible to errors and failures caused by solar activity. Extremely strong solar flares can even present a radiation hazard to astronauts in space.

Electronic systems in satellites are vulnerable to heightened levels of solar radiation, and control from the ground can be interrupted or made impossible. The increase in solar activity causes a heating and expansion of Earth's atmosphere, a situation which threatens the useful lifetime of an orbiting satellite. The increased drag a satellite experiences as the solar cycle approaches its maximum can alter a satellite's orbit or even cause it to fall to Earth prematurely. This was the reason for the early re-entry and breakup of Skylab in 1979. The Solar Maximum Mission satellite, or Solar Max, which was launched in 1980 to study the sun, is expected to become a victim of the current sunspot cycle. Scientists estimate that Solar Max will fall from space and burn up in Earth's atmosphere sometime in 1990, or even sooner.

Not all the consequences of the sunspot cycle will be unpleasant ones. Beautiful auroras should occur more frequently, and will likely be observable over a greater area on Earth. One group of people likely to enjoy this period of high solar activity are ham radio operators. The increased activity on the sun's surface translates into greatly improved radio conditions, unusual propagation effects, and good signal quality. Of course, short wave radio blackouts will be more common, too, as the number of solar flares rises with the sunspot cycle.

The most active period of the cycle will probably last several years. So, at the very least, some interesting and exciting times are ahead as the sun continues to exert its considerable influence on our world.

tnx MOBILE SLXERS' Heterodyne

1989

OCTOBER

1989

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 2M NCS N3FVI 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3PWG	2 GENERAL MEETING & LICENSE EXAMS	3 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM	4 SWAP NET at 8:30 PM <i>Sputnik I Launched 1957</i>	5	6	7
8 2M NCS W3AWG 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3AOA <i>Pack Rats' Hamfest Warrington, PA</i>	9 <i>Yom Kippur Columbus Day Leif Erikson Day Fire Prevention Day</i>	10 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM	11 SWAP NET at 8:30 PM	12	13 <i>Molly Pitcher's Birthday 1754</i>	14 <i>Succoth Dwight Eisenhower's Birthday 1890</i>
15 2M NCS KA3AMO 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3RCE	16	17 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM <i>Rita Hayworth's Birthday 1918</i>	18 SWAP NET at 8:30 PM DIRECTORS' MEETING at W3IIM & N's	19	20	21 <i>Sweetest Day</i>
22 2M NCS KB3IV 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS AK2I <i>Penn Wireless Hamfest Bensalem, PA</i>	23	24 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM <i>United Nations Day</i>	25 SWAP NET at 8:30 PM	26	27 <i>Theodore Roosevelt's Birthday 1858</i>	28
29 2M NCS KA3BET 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3HFY <i>RF Hill Hamfest Sellersville, PA</i>	30	31 CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM <i>Halloween</i>				



BUFFET

HORS D'OEUVRE TRAY

Vegetable · Fruit · Cheese · Dip

SOUP

Vegetable-Barley

SALADS

Tossed Garden · Three Bean · Macaroni

ENTREES

Carved Prime Rib of Beef
Baked Chicken with Poulette Sauce
Baked Fish

VEGETABLES

Green Beans Almondine · Au Gratin Potatoes

Assorted Desserts

Coffee · Tea · Sanka

Rolls & Butter

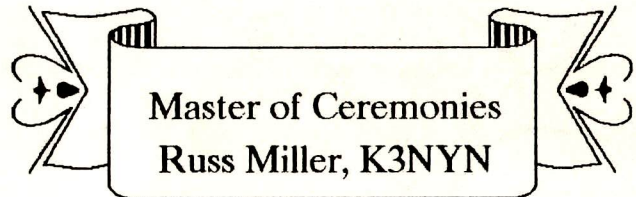


THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB

cordially invites you to attend its

Gala 40th Anniversary Banquet

Saturday, the eleventh of November,
nineteen hundred and eighty nine



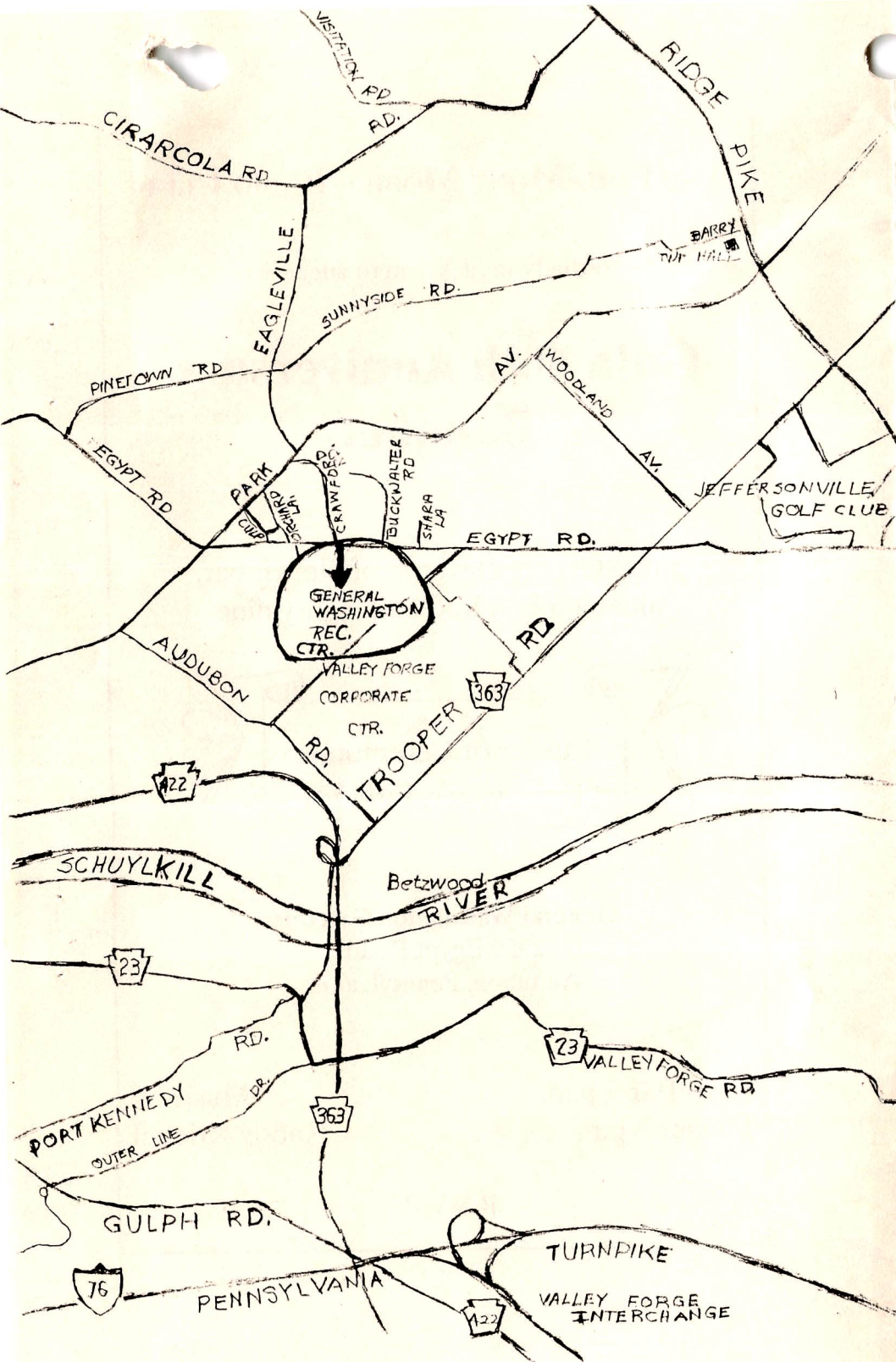
Master of Ceremonies
Russ Miller, K3NYN

General Washington Caterers
2750 Egypt Road
Audubon, Pennsylvania

Cash Bar 7 p.m.
Dinner 8 p.m.

Music by
Randy Kriebel

R.S.V.P.



Please reserve _____ places for me.

Enclosed is my check

in the amount of \$ _____

(Donation \$26.50 per person)

Name _____ Call _____

Guests:
Name _____ Call _____

Name _____ Call _____

Name _____ Call _____

Reservations required
Please reply by October 28, 1989

to

Elizabeth Reichert, N3EBE
1062 Quarry Hall Road
Norristown, PA
19403